Cogentrix

125. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cogentrix Energy Inc. has approached the Central Electricity Authority for a revised Power Purchase Agreement;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Central Electricity Authority has received revised tariff hike recommendation from the Karnataka Government;

(d) if so, whether it was acceptable to the Cogentrix; and

(e) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by CEA to settle the issue between Cogentrix and the Karnataka Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The draft Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for the 1000 MW Mangalore Power Project of Mangalore Power Company promoted by Congentrix Energy Inc., has been sent to the Government of Karnataka for finalisation along with the decisions taken by the Government of India (GOI) on the draft PPA. The PPA is required to be approved by GOI for the issue of a counter guarantee for this project.

(c) Nor, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Renovation of Power Plants by Enron

126. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether American Multinational Company 'Enron' has sent any proposal regarding renovation of old power plants in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Indian Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) No proposal has been received by the Government from the American Multinational Company 'Enron' for renovation and modernisation of old power plants in India.

[English]

Spray of DDT

127. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that mosquitoes responsible for spreading dengue and malaria, is increasing;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to re-start spraying of DDT under National Malaria Eradication Programme keeping in view the ineffectiveness of other measures taken by the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) The reports received from various entomological zones in the country indicate variable trends in the density of malaria vector. However, the density of Dengue vector was kept under control.

The reasons for spread of the vectors of malaria and dengue can be attributed to:—

— Major demographic changes like uncontrolled urbanisation coupled with excessive population growth;

— Substandard housing and inadequate water and waste disposal system;

— Rapid movement of infected humans and also migration of labour.

— Creation of mosquitogenic conditions through stagnation of water in water containers, coolers, cisterns, unused tyres, flower vases, pots etc.

— Existence of a large number of vacancies & frequent transfer of trained persons;

— Non adherence to the spray schedule for vector control by various States;

— Poor surveillance activities;

— Lack of timely development and implementation of the Action plan for prevention and control of diseases by the State Govts; and

— Resistance of vectors to conventional insecticides and on the parasites to commonly available drugs.

(b) and (c) DDT continues to be used in selective manner for indoor spray operations for vector control under National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP) in the rural areas.

For prevention and control of Malaria, a mix of interventions like use of newer insecticides namely Synthetic Pyrethoid, Biolarvicides and Medicated Mosquito Nets have been contemplated under the National Malaria Eradication Programme.

National Family Welfare Programme

128. SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Family Walfare Programme is a cent-per cent Centrally sponsored scheme;

(b) whether the Union Government is yet to reimburse a sum of Rs. 64.63 crore to the Government of Uttar Pradesh released by the State Government from its own resources for the implementation of the said scheme in the State; and

(c) if so, the reasons for delay to reimburse the said amount to the State Government and the action taken by the Union Government to reimburse the amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per records of this Department an amount of Rs. 150.93 crores is reimbursable to Uttar Pradesh.

(c) The amount budgeted for liquidation of arrears during 1997-98 has already been released. The Ministry of Finance has since been approached for additional funds for the purpose.

Pooyamkutty Power Project

129. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposed Pooyamkutty Hydro Electric Power Project in Kerala has been cleared by the Central Electricity Authority; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The Pooyamkutty Hydroelectric Project in Kerala (2x120 MW) was accorded techno-economic clearance by Central Electricity Authority in 1984 at an estimated cost of Rs. 250 crores.

(b) Does not arise.

Rehabilitation of Gulf Returnees

130. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :
SHRI G.M. BANATWALA :
SHRI A.C. JOS :
SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :
SHRI MADAN PATIL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Indian immigrants have recently been ordered by some of the gulf (Middle-East) countries to leave;

(b) if so, their number, country-wise:

(c) the reasons for which they were ordered to leave the countries ;

(d) the arrangements made to bring them back to India; and

(e) the arrangements made for rehabilitation of these Gulf returnees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALIM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c) Some of the Gulf countries recently announced amnesty enabling foreign nationals, including Indian nationals who were staying illegally in those countries to leave the concerned country without paying penalties for their illegal stay. According to the information available with the Government, approximately sixty thousand Indian nationals left the UAE under the amnesty. The number of Indians who left Saudi Arabia and Bahrain are not available. However, 42000 Indian nationals were issued travel documents (Emergency Certificates) by our mission in Riyadh and the consulate General in Jeddah. In Bahrain 2773 Emergency Certificates were issued by our Mission.

(d) The arrangements made to bring such persons back to India included issue of travel documents (Emergency Certificates), servicing of passports if already held by them, liaison with local authorities by our missions to expedite the essential formalities, coordination with airlines to create additional seating capacity in the Gulf-India sector, special counters in the missions to guide and assist the Indians availing of the amnesty, provision of water, food and medicines to the affected Indians pending completion of the required formalities, liaison with the passenger liner services with a view to ensuring that humane conditions existed for